

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM NBC News on the Hour

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CITY Washington, D.C.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON DEFENDS CIA

NEIL BOGGS: "A presidential defense of the Central Intelligence Agency. The story from NBC News White House Correspondent, Ray Sherer."

SHERER: "President Johnson today strongly defended the Central Intelligence Agency against its many critics, congressional and otherwise. The President, in awarding the National Security Medal to retiring CIA Chief, Admiral William F. Rayburn, spoke of intelligence experts as men who must bear criticism in silence."

JOHNSON: "For it is the lot of those in our intelligence agencies that they should work in silence, sometime fail in silence, but more often succeed in silence. Unhappily also, it is sometimes their lot that they must suffer in silence, for like all in high public position, they are occasionally subject to criticism, which they must not answer."

SHERER: "To cap his point, the President pinned the medal on Admiral Rayburn."

"Ray Sherer, NBC News, at the White House."